(c) The Cll National Committee on Health Care commissioned Mckinsey and Company for a Study in the year 2002, to define an achievable way forward for health care. The study has concluded that changing demographics, diseases profile and rising treatment costs will cause spending on health care to more than double by 2012. To meet this increase in the demand for health care, improvement in infrastructure will require investments in hospitals, medical colleges, nursing schools and hospital management schools of Rs. 100,000 Crores to Rs. 140,000 crores over the next 10 years.

Accidents due to failure of safety norms and human errors

*350.SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that causes of accidents of trains are failure of giving due attention to rail safety and non-implementation fo safety norms.

(b) the details of train accidents in 2004 and 2005 due to failure of safety norms and by human error;

(c) what penalty is imposed to those employees who violate safety norms;

(d) how many persons-have been booked for non-implementation of safety norms during 2004 and 2005; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to ensure strict compliance of safety norms?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. Safety is the prime concern of Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken to prevent rail accidents.

(b) The cause wise details of consequential train accidents including those on account of human failure for the year 2003-04 and 2004-05 have been as under:—

Causes	2003-04	2004-05*
Failure of Railway Staff	161	119
Failure of other than Railway Staff	107	78
Failure of equipment	18	14
Sabotage	18	4
Combination of factors	2	1
Incidental	17	16
Could not be established conclusively	2	2
Under Investigation	—	—
GRAND TOTAL	325	234

Figures are provisional.

(c) Depending upon the gravity and seriousness of the lapse, appropriate penalty under the Discipline and Appeal Rules is imposed against defaulting officials.

(d) During the period 2003-04 to 2004-05, 853 Railway official have been taken up under Disciplinary and Appeal Rules and penalties, including dismissal and removal from service, have been imposed, for various lapses leading to consequential train accidents.

(e) To ensure compliance of safety norms, periodical safety drives are launched to focus on specific areas of concern. Inspections are conducted at various levels to monitor safety. Those found violating the safety norms are taken up under the Disciplinary and Appeal Rules. Conselling and refresher courses are held periodically to update skills and raise safety consciousness amongst staff.

Stalls at platforms in Konkan

†*351. SHRI VASANT CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.